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Examiner name: NGUYEN. SONT  
US Patent & Trade Mark Office  
P.O Box 1450 Alexandria  
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Dear Mss Nguyen, Sont

**10/000,094 Polysaccharide mushroom compost supplements**

**Examiner Name NGUYEN SON T**

On 13<sup>th</sup> October 2004 I sent to you a fax and a letter regarding the extensive prior art in regard to the applications for patents by Lapolt Dena L (US) and Dahlberg Kurt R (US) application number WO2001 US 45374 20011204- the concept of using polysaccharides as mushroom supplements.

In regard to the amended application the statement by Dr. Romain has clarified the field of application for the concept of usage of polysaccharides as supplements. However starch and cellulose are integral components of all present day supplements and any claims for cellulose of less than 16% of the supplement weight are likely to be invalid because of prior art – supplements having been manufactured for many years using Soya hull (35% cellulose) and palm kernel meal (16.5% cellulose)

Claims made for inclusion of starch at rates less than 65% are likely to be invalid because of the use, particularly in Europe for many years, of cereal grains for phase 111 supplementation. Even the original patents granted to Schisler & Carol 1976 US Patent 39429699 specify:-

Extracted cotton seed meal	19-21% Polysaccharide
Extracted Soya bean meal	11 – 15% Polysaccharide
Extracted peanut meal	13 – 15.5% Polysaccharide.

Also any claim that starch dampens or suppresses temperature surges during spawn run and does not require additional microbial or preservative treatment or that it may suppress or reduce the growth of pests and pathogen organisms – Claim 5, 6 and 7. These claims are totally at odds with the facts.

Starch is conducive to heat surge and is a catalyst for mushroom disease. It is also very difficult to protect from microbial attack. In the amended application I see no acknowledgment of the difficulties regarding prior art or the danger of utilization of starch.

This application needs much further work to make a safe patent.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Parker' with a stylized, cursive flourish at the end.

Frank Parker.